

Remarks

This Response is submitted with a Request for Continued Examination, together with the appropriate fee. Entry of the prior amendment dated April 25, 2005 that was received in the Patent Office on April 27, 2005 into the Official File is respectfully requested. Examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

The Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's detailed and helpful comments with respect to Claim 13, of Miyakawa and Ishii in the Advisory Action dated May 20, 2005. The Applicants respectfully submit that the solicited claims are patentable over the hypothetical combinations of Ishii with Miyakawa as set forth in both the §103 rejection and the double patenting rejection for the reasons set forth in detail below.

Claim 13 recites that the coating layer comprises a copolymer of a resin and a light stabilizer component. The Applicants invite the Examiner's attention to pages 14-15 of the Applicants' specification wherein three methods of mixing the resin component and the light stabilizer are described. Those three methods are as follows: 1) dissolving or dispersing the resin component in the light stabilizer in an organic solvent capable of dissolving the resin component and the light stabilizer, or in water, a mixture of two or more different types of organic solvents, or a mixture of organic solvents/water at the same time; 2) the resin component and the light stabilizer are separately dissolved or dispersed in such an organic solvent, water, an organic solvent mixture or a mixture of organic solvent/water; and 3) preparing a copolymer of the light stabilizer component and the resin component preliminarily.

Claim 13 employs a copolymer of the light stabilizer component and the resin component. One example is a commercially available hybrid-type light stabilizer polymer, U/double (Nippon

Shokubai) as the copolymer of the light stabilizer component and the resin component.

The Applicants respectfully submit that this is sharply contrasted to Miyakawa, which does not disclose a copolymer of a light stabilizer component and the resin component. In that regard, the Applicants note with appreciation the particular comments concerning Example 5 of Miyakawa and its alleged applicability to the solicited claims. The problem with Example 5 of Miyakawa is that it discloses only dissolving or dispersing the resin component and the light stabilizer in a solvent. Dissolving or dispersing does not produce a copolymer. This is sharply different from the claimed coating layer comprising a copolymer of a resin with a light stabilizer component. In other words, Miyakawa discloses a dissolving or dispersing method of the resin component and the light stabilizer, while the Applicants' claim a coating layer comprising a copolymer of the resin and a light stabilizer. These are not the same thing.

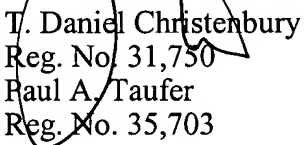
Said differently, the first two dissolving methods as described in pages 14 and 15 of the Applicants' Specification do not result in a copolymer of the resin with light stabilizer component. The Applicants' Specification discloses three methods of mixing the resin component with a light stabilizer and two of those methods do not result in a copolymer while the third method does. Example 5 of Miyakawa is essentially the same as one of the first two dissolving or dispersing methods of the Applicants' Specification. However, the Applicants claim the third method which results in the copolymer.

The Applicants therefore respectfully submit that even if one of ordinary skill in the art were to hypothetically combine the teachings of Ishii with Example 5 of Miyakawa, that the resulting film would still fail to teach or suggest a coating layer comprising a copolymer of the resin and the light stabilizer. As a consequence, the Applicants respectfully submit that the hypothetical combination of Ishii with Miyakawa is inapplicable to the subject matter of the solicited claims. The Applicants

therefore respectfully request that both the 35 U.S.C. §103 rejection and the double patenting rejection based on the hypothetical combination of the two references be withdrawn.

In the light of the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that the entire Application is now in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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